

Message Text

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AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1597

USIA FOR PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), PGOV; BR, US, ENGR

SUBJ: BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL:

PRESS GUIDANCE--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON NUCLEAR ISSUE

REF: A) BRASILIA 8636 (OCTOBER 19, 1977), B) BRASILIA 1533

1. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT LITTLE HAS CHANGED IN BILATERAL RELATIONS IN NUCLEAR AREA SINCE PREPARATION OF REF (A), AND THAT PRESS QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED REPLIES PRESENTED REF A ARE STILL BASICALLY VALID.

2. ONLY CHANGES WHICH WE WOULD RECOMMEND ARE FOLLOWING:

QUESTION 8: IN QUESTION, CHANGE "RUN IMMINENT DANGER OF HAVING TO BE RENEGOTIATED" TO "MUST BE RENEGOTIATED." IN SUGGESTED ANSWER, DELETE FINAL PART OF FINAL SENTENCE, "WHOSE ORGANIZING CONFERENCE WAS HELD LAST MONTH."

QUESTION 10: IN QUESTION, CHANGE FIRST PART, "BRAZILIAN PAPERS RECENTLY REPORTED THAT THE AMERICAN DELEGATION

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TO THE LAST MEETING OF THE SUPPLIER COUNTRIES IN LONDON STATED..." TO "THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT REPORTS THAT..." NO CHANGE IN SUGGESTED REPLY.

QUESTION 11: EXACT PHRASING OF QUESTION AND ANSWER WILL VARY WITH STATUS OF NRC ACTION ON INITIAL ANGRA-1 FUEL LOAD. IN ANSWER, REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE

TO RECENT SIGNATURE OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT.

QUESTION 13: DELETE BOTH VERSIONS OF QUESTION AND ANSWER IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTE FOLLOWING NEW QUESTION: DOES YOUR GOVERNMENT PLAN TO USE FUTURE FUEL SUPPLY FOR ANGRA-1 AND THE RESEARCH REACTOR IN SAO PAULO AS A CLUB TO FORCE BRAZILIAN ACCEPTANCE OF US OBJECTIONS TO THE BRAZIL-FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD?

A. AS I HAVE INDICATED, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS RECOMMENDED FAVORABLE ACTION ON THE RECENT EXPORT APPLICATIONS FOR FUEL FOR THESE TWO REACTORS. FUTURE SUPPLIES ARE VERY CLEARLY CONTINGENT UPON SATISFACTION OF THE CONDITIONS OF OUR LEGISLATION ON THE MATTER, AND, ONCE THESE CONDITIONS ARE SATISFIED, A RELIABLE FUEL SUPPLY IS ASSURED.

QUESTION 15 (TO BE ADDED): THE BRAZILIAN PRESS HAS RECENTLY DESCRIBED THE NEW US LEGISLATION ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS AS "MAKING A GIFT OF THE WORLD'S REACTOR BUSINESS TO EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS." DO YOU AGREE THAT THIS IS ITS EFFECT, AND IF SO, DO YOU CONSIDER THIS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF LIMITING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION?

A. IF THE EFFECT OF THE NEW LEGISLATION WERE TO FREEZE THE US OUT OF THE NUCLEAR PROGRAMS OF THE NON-CONFIDENTIAL

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NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES, IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY REDUCE OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE THE DIRECTIONS THESE PROGRAMS TAKE AND WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL FROM A NON-PROLIFERATION VIEWPOINT. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION, AND I WOULD NOT HAVE SOUGHT THE LEGISLATION IF IT WERE. WHAT THE LEGISLATION DOES DO IS SET VERY CLEAR--AND I THINK VERY REASONABLE--CONDITIONS FOR US NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES. COOPERATION INCLUDES BOTH REACTOR AND FUEL SALES, ALONG WITH THE FULL RANGE OF RESEARCH INTO PEACEFUL NUCLEAR USES. THE UNITED STATES HAS A GREAT DEAL TO OFFER IN THESE AREAS, SEEKS TO COOPERATE WITH OTHERS IN THESE AREAS, AND FEELS CERTAIN THAT OUR EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THIS COOPERATION DOES NOT ENCOURAGE NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION ARE SUPPORTED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
JOHNSON

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